

Sarah Layton  
Parent from Lyme Old Lyme High School  
[sarahlayton8@gmail.com](mailto:sarahlayton8@gmail.com)  
6074271477  
Lyme Old Lyme

My name is Sarah Layton and I am not a teacher, but a mother to three young children. I was raised in Old Lyme and had the benefit of well funded school. Great teachers, great school programs, fun field trips, technologically advanced classrooms, etc etc. I thought that's what school was—meaning I thought that's what school was for everyone and everywhere. It wasn't until I became an adult that I learned from a close friend (who taught in Hartford Public Schools) that Connecticut has the largest education equity gap in the nation. I am shocked and appalled by her many stories of her school's struggles and lack of funding. As 44% of school funding is based directly on property taxes, it makes sense that a Hartford school would be quite different from an Old Lyme school. More funding doesn't just make a difference with textbooks and technology, but with essential professionals like social workers, counselors, school psychologists, etc. which are especially needed for equitable resources and support for children living in poverty. Please support this bill.